GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4513
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2000
SALE OF MODERN FOOD
SUDARSANA E.M. NATCHIAPPAN

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item under captioned Modern Foods old guard fears sack appearing in the Times of India dated November 9, 2000;

(a) if so, whether modern food has been sold to the Hindustan Lever Limited;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the amount spent on the modern food by the Government for upliftment purposes and save from sick units during each of the last three years?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): The Government has disinvested 74% of its equity holding in modern Food Industries (India) Limited (MFIL) to M/s Hindustan Lever Limited.

(c): The disinvestments of equity in Modern Food Industries (India) Limited was according to the policy decision of the Government.

(d): As long as MFIL was a Government Company, financial assistance was provided for its business purposes.

The details of the financial assistance during the last three (3) years are as under :-

1997-98 - Rs. 248.50 lakhs (as equity and loan)

1998-99 - Nil

1999-2000 -Rs. 500 lakhs (as Grant for implementation of Voluntary Retirement Scheme)